

# THE MILITANT

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## SWP Slate Files In Calif. Contest

BERKELEY, Calif. Jan. 4 — The Socialist Workers Party announced today at a press conference that it is endorsing a slate of socialist candidates in Oakland and Berkeley.

Paul Montauk, 44, is being backed by the SWP for Mayor of Oakland (see story, page 2).

In Berkeley, the SWP is endorsing Peter Camejo, 27, for Mayor; Jaime Allen, 23, Ove Aspy, 21, and Brian Shannon, 30, for City Council; and Ernest Erlbeck, 27, for Board of Education.

Montauk, a socialist for over 25 years, was a leader in Oakland during the labor upsurge following the Second World War. Montauk said that with many union contracts coming up for negotiation in 1967, the issue of inflation caused by the Vietnam war and cost-of-living escalator clauses would assume great importance.

The first of four points of the socialists' program deals with the war in Vietnam. Peter Camejo, a leader of the United Committee Against the War, and presently a student at Berkeley, said, "We reject the notion that you talk about foreign policy when you run for national office and plumbing when you run locally."

The platform the socialists are advancing consists of these planks:

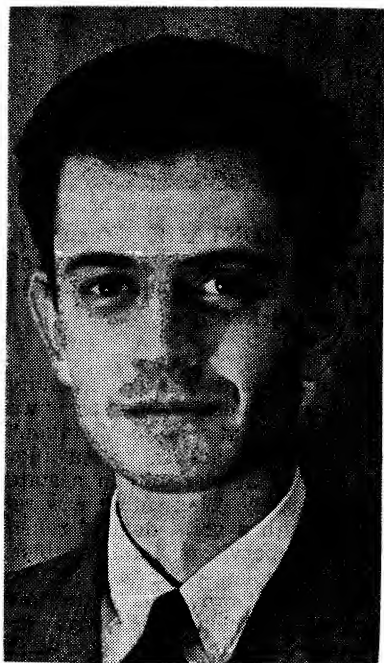
- Withdraw our troops from Vietnam now.

- Let the people decide on war. Organize a national referendum to decide whether the U.S. should get out of Vietnam.

- Support the right of GIs to discuss the war and say what they think about it.

- Oppose capitalist conscription — no draftees to fight imperialist wars.

- Support the Negro people's fight for freedom, justice and equality — the fight for black power.



**Peter Camejo**  
SWP Candidate for Mayor of Berkeley

- Support labor's fight against inflation — for union escalator clauses to compensate for rises in the cost of living.

- Repeal all witchhunt and anti-labor laws. No laws against the right to strike.

- Support the organization of trade unions at the University — the largest employer in Berkeley. No cops on campus. Universities should be run by students, faculty and workers, not big business.

- Launch a crash program to build decent low-cost houses.

- Oppose war taxes. No taxes for incomes under \$7,500.

- Encourage independent, anti-capitalist Negro and labor political action.

- Work for a democratic, socialist America.

## Viet War Referendum Is Sought in Berkeley

BERKELEY — On Jan. 3, Socialist Workers Party candidates for Mayor of Berkeley and Oakland went before their respective City Councils to request that the City Councils place a referendum on the ballot on the Vietnam war in the upcoming elections.

The Oakland City Council flatly turned down the request by Paul Montauk, but the Berkeley City Council expressed some interest in the referendum.

The Berkeley Council rejected the wording proposed by Peter Camejo. The wording Camejo proposed was for unequivocal withdrawal, and was similar to the wording of the referendum held in Dearborn, Michigan in the November elections. But the Council left open the possibility of some other kind of referendum, and in a meeting on Jan. 10, appointed a three-man committee to study the question.

The proposal has stirred a great

deal of interest in the East Bay, and local newspapers have felt constrained to take a position for or against the Camejo proposal.

A committee of Berkeley citizens has been formed to back the referendum proposal. The members of the committee include: Cliff Humphrey of the United Committee Against the War; Robert Scheer of *Ramparts* magazine; Robert Avakian, Community for New Politics; Reginald Zelnick, Faculty Peace Committee; Betina Aptheker, student strike leader; Carl Frank of the Vietnam Day Committee; George Lydon, civil rights attorney; Robert Randolph, writer for the *National Guardian*; Max Scherr, editor of the *Berkeley Barb*; Hal Jacobs, SDS; John Raymond, editor of the *Citizen* newspaper; Janet Langmead, delegate to the California Democratic Council; and Peter Camejo. The committee is still in the process of formation.

# THE CRISIS IN CHINA

— See editorial page 3 —

## 3 from U.S. Describe Attacks on N. Vietnam

### Women Visitors Give Account of Bombing Raids

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK, Jan. 10 — Three American women just returned from a visit to north Vietnam today described how the U.S. is deliberately bombing civilian areas there in a ruthless effort to bring the people of that country to their knees.

The women, who went there at the invitation of the north Vietnamese Women's Union, told of their experience at a press conference here. They were in north Vietnam for eleven days beginning Dec. 23. The three women who attended the press conference were Barbara Deming, Patricia Griffith and Grace Mora Newman. A fourth member of their party, Diane Nash Bevel, made a stop in Europe and was not here for the news conference.

Grace Mora Newman is the sister of Pvt. Dennis Mora, one of the Fort Hood Three jailed by the Army for refusing to fight in Vietnam. Barbara Deming, journalist and pacifist, is a member of the editorial board of *Liberation* magazine. Patricia Griffith is secretary of the Inter-University Committee for Debate on Foreign Policy.

The three women told their story quietly and effectively in the face of a barrage of hostile questions (and sometimes excited



Photo by Peter Seidman

**DESCRIBE VIETNAM BOMBINGS.** Three U.S. peace activists, just back from north Vietnam, at New York press conference. From left to right, Patricia Griffith, Grace Mora Newman and Barbara Deming.

harangues) by a number of the newsmen who jammed in for the conference.

Barbara Deming, whose dedication to pacifist ideals has led to a number of prison terms, spoke movingly of the remarkable fighting determination of the north Vietnamese people.

On the basis of what she saw, Miss Deming said, "it now seems very clear to me that my gov-

ernment is waging a war of terror against a civilian population in the hope that it will cause them to surrender."

Describing the terrible toll of the bombing of civilian areas, she said she had seen victims in hospitals, including children, who had been injured by "lazy dog" bombs, large bombs which spray out smaller ones which fragment.

(Continued on Page 5)

## The Lynching of Adam Powell

By Elizabeth Barnes

The barring of Adam Clayton Powell from his committee chairmanship by the Democratic Party caucus, and from his seat in Congress has been met with an almost unanimous outcry of opposition in the black community.

Black people have drawn the obvious conclusion that the attack on Powell is an attack on all Negroes. As one Harlem resident put it, "A hell of a lot of people in Washington do a hell of a lot worse and nobody says anything about it."

An editorial in the Dec. 31 *Amsterdam News*, a New York Negro newspaper, summed it up this way:

"The Hays group seems determined to nail Powell's pelt to the wall. If they are so determined, we would suggest that they concentrate on and investigate other pelts in Washington. Their findings might force them to rent Yankee Stadium to hold all the hides."

The move against Powell is a manifestation of naked racism. The offenses that he is accused of pale in comparison with the crimes of other politicians in Washington.



Adam Clayton Powell

They are nothing compared to those of the racist Mississippi congressmen who were seated after the 1964 elections in spite of the fact that they were challenged by disenfranchised Negroes.

On the very day Powell was excluded from Congress, Lester Maddox, the vicious neanderthal racist, was elected as governor by the Georgia legislature—the same legislature that excluded Julian Bond from his rightful seat for so long.

### Small Peanuts

The funds allegedly misappropriated by Powell are chicken feed next to the billions of dollars his colleagues channel into the coffers of private companies from lush government cost-plus contracts.

Pete Hamill lashed out against the hypocrisy of Powell's accusers in his column in the Jan. 9 issue of the *New York Post*. He wrote, "The slick boobs in Washington talk with chicken-fat rhetoric about The People, and Liberty, and Eternal Brotherhood and the Rights of Man, pose for their pictures on church steps and then go home to read 'Fanny Hill' with the doors locked."

"The man who doesn't buy it all (Continued on Page 6)

# THE NATIONAL PICKET LINE

After a hard-fought strike of three months, members of four unions have ratified contract settlements with General Electric at its Schenectady plant. About 12,500 workers are involved, over 11,000 of them members of IUE Local 301. In continuing the strike after a national AFL-CIO settlement with GE last October, IUE members centered on two local issues: a measured day work system entailing pernicious wage cutting; and harsh disciplinary action to enforce production standards arbitrarily set by the company.

GE attacked the union with threats to relocate production elsewhere and by campaigning locally to recruit strikebreakers. It was nevertheless compelled to offer a compromise settlement. The offer included elimination of scheduled "transition" pay cuts, new job evaluation reviews and curbs on employee harassment. Local 301 members — isolated by the capitulatory national settlement with GE and confronted with a vicious local strikebreaking attack — accepted the compromise 4,475 to 4,155. It includes the terms of the national contract.

At the same time they voted to honor picket lines of unions of plumbers, teamsters and draftsmen which had not yet settled with GE. Soon thereafter these disputes were terminated with modest gains.

\* \* \*

For five months, at the Michigan Collapsible Tube plant in Warren, there has been a picket line on which women outnumber men 42 to 5. Key issues are increased pay, job-classification changes and worker resistance to a company demand for a no-strike clause.

Company officials are whining that the pickets are "driving them out of business." Gladys Howard, chairman of the UAW bargaining committee at the plant, countered that they are just trying to scare the workers into calling off the strike. She said the pickets are "digging in for a long, cold winter."

\* \* \*

Members of the Communications Workers of America have accepted a three-year contract with the Michigan Bell Telephone Co. by a vote of 7,853 to 2,623. It provides wage increases from \$3.50 to \$8 a week, wage matters can be reopened after 18 months, and the initial raise is retroactive to Oct. 2.

Earlier the membership had rejected almost identical terms 7,018 to 4,825. Since then the CWA has signed a new contract with Western Electric (See *Militant*, Dec. 12) which is considered a pattern setter for the telephone industry. Explaining why a reversal of the Michigan vote followed, a local union spokesman said, "If we had voted to strike now, we would have been alone, with our only prospect being a long, costly strike which would win us nothing."

\* \* \*

Negotiations have been "indefinitely recessed" in a strike of

2,000 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers against the West Coast Telephone Co. The walkout began Dec. 1, upon expiration of the old union contract with the company, which operates facilities in Washington, Oregon and Northern California. Wages, seniority and shift-changes are at issue.

The company is trying to crush the union and restore open-shop rule. It is using supervisors to keep up makeshift operations, while carrying on a major drive to recruit strikebreakers.

\* \* \*

A union organizer of California farm workers, DeWitt Tannehill, has been assaulted with unspeakable brutality. Two men held him at gunpoint, made him disrobe, then forced a stick the size of a broomstick, with a nail in the end, up his rectum. Emergency surgery disclosed severe internal injuries, especially to the liver and kidneys.

A protest resolution adopted by the union points out that he has been threatened many times in the past by growers and labor contractors. The union has offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Tannehill's attackers. Its address is: United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, Delano, Calif.

\* \* \*

"Walter P. Reuther, president of United Auto Workers . . . who will begin contract talks with the major auto makers next summer, said the 'central source of our difficulty' in negotiations is deciding on wage and benefit terms three years in advance. 'A worker is told three years before the fact what his equity will be,' the union leader said. 'This is a very bad way to run a railroad.' — *Wall Street Journal*, Jan. 10.

Very bad, indeed. A better way would be to return to the militant policy of the best days of the CIO. Insist that contracts with the corporations be restricted to a one-year term.

\* \* \*

A 164-day strike of New York City plumbers has been ended on terms dictated for the workers by the national president of the union, Peter T. Schoemann. In a highhanded action carried out Johnson-style, Schoemann summoned local union negotiators to meet with him and the plumbing contractors at his offices in Washington, where the settlement terms were laid down.

"After you have given the information to the members of Local 2," Schoemann told the local union representatives, "they are to return to work immediately." He graciously allowed a membership meeting at which the striking plumbers could be told the terms of the new contract.

At the meeting a former local president, who had been unseated during the strike, pleaded, "At least let us vote on the back-to-work order. Don't make us look like fools in the eyes of the world. There has to be some dignity."

## INTERVIEW WITH A PICKET

# Oakland Hospital Strike

By Paul Montauk  
SWP Candidate for Mayor  
of Oakland

OAKLAND, Calif., Jan. 8—Two seemingly unrelated legal decisions have provoked a militant and determined strike at two Alameda County hospitals in Oakland on the part of the unskilled, highly exploited workers employed there.

The first decision was a ruling by California Attorney General Lynch that the U.S. is "legally in a state of war with north Vietnam." The second was a ruling by the County Board of Supervisors that it is "illegal" for public employees to strike.

In discussing these facts and others with a picket captain at Highland Hospital, I was able to get the following picture of the strike — a picture which shapes up in marked contrast to the one presented by the press. The picket line was organized by East Bay Municipal Employees Local 390.

### Wage Demands

Encouraged by the recent successful strike by Alameda County nurses, which resulted in an across-the-board wage increase of 20 percent, the unskilled workers at Highland and Fairmont hospitals began to press demands for a wage increase. Existing contracts with private hospitals do not allow for a wage re-opening until July, but the county hospitals have no contracts with any unions on the grounds that "public institutions cannot legally recognize unions." Local 390 approached the Board of Supervisors, which operates the hospitals, with a request for a 40 percent wage increase for the 700 workers represented at the two hospitals. The request was heard, and after considerable delay was pigeonholed, with the Supervisors pleading "insufficient funds" to grant any increase.

Immediately following this ac-



Photo by Hermes

**PAUL MONTAUK (center).** SWP candidate for Mayor of Oakland talks with union official on picket line.

tion, the Board queried the state attorney general whether "we were legally at war in Vietnam." The attorney general ruled that the U.S. is at war and in a state of emergency. This ruling was received with a great deal of relish by the Supervisors, for it enabled them to take advantage of an "emergency" provision in the law and grant themselves wage increases ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year — for the "duration of the emergency!"

To top it off, they made these increases retroactive to "the beginning of the war." No one knows exactly the date they chose as the "beginning of the war."

The picket captain told me this action by the Supervisors triggered

## SOCIALIST FUND

# We Did It Again!

By Marvel Scholl  
Fund Director

Nothing makes a national fund director happier than to turn in a final scoreboard showing that the campaign has been successful. And that is just what happened. What makes this performance all the more gratifying is that only one branch failed to make its quota, but despite that the total collections came to 101%!

Much of the credit for this fact goes to those branches which exceeded their quotas. But even more goes to the many, many individual *Militant* readers who sent in contributions with the coupon. One such received this week asked that his \$10 donation be credited to Boston.

One contribution from Mr. and

Mrs. B. of Houston, Texas, came with this letter: "Enclosed is our contribution to the Socialist Fund. This is but a small part to play in attaining our socialist goals."

### 'General' Helpers

We also acknowledge with thanks sizable donations from J. H. of Minneapolis, Miss K. G. of Glen Falls, N.Y., L.M.E. of Baltimore, R.A. of Detroit, and N.B. of New York City. There are many more, but space does not permit mentioning them all. But to all we say thanks!

The performance of all the branches, and of our individual friends promises to make the forthcoming year a good one for the Socialist Workers Party.

## Fund Scoreboard

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
Minneapolis-St. Paul	\$1,000	\$1,200	120
Denver	100	120	120
Boston	1,000	1,010	101
Detroit	1,200	1,210	101
Allentown	135	135	100
Chicago	1,500	1,500	100
Cleveland	900	900	100
Milwaukee	400	400	100
Newark	100	100	100
New York	4,800	4,800	100
Oakland/Berkeley	1,000	1,000	100
Philadelphia	450	450	100
St. Louis	150	150	100
San Diego	125	125	100
San Francisco	1,000	1,000	100
Seattle	250	250	100
Los Angeles	4,000	3,592	87
General	—	268	—
Total	\$18,110	\$18,210	101

the strike. "That day, in all the wards, the laundry room, the kitchen, all those people were talking about was, 'how come they get something for themselves and nothing for us?'"

This was a good question. The union has shown that the majority of the workers start with a gross pay of \$333 a month, with graduated pay increases over a five year period which brings them up to \$405 gross. This is considerably below wage rates for similar jobs in the area. For example, a laundry utility worker in San Francisco starts at \$364, and at \$459 in Santa Clara.

The workers, after watching the Supervisors vote themselves "emergency" salary increases, were infuriated. At a special meeting they voted overwhelmingly to strike, and on December 31 they walked out and established picket lines. The Supervisors immediately said the strike was illegal and the striking workers received registered letters notifying them they were fired.

Referring to former Governor Brown's oft-repeated remark, "public workers can't strike," the Supervisors expanded the facilities of the Civil Service Commission to recruit scabs. In addition, the Supervisors went to Superior Judge William J. McGuinness, who issued a restraining order prohibiting the strike. The restraining order is vaguely worded and does not refer to any violation of law by the strikers.

### Got Support

In response, the workers massed on the picket lines. They also received the official support of the powerful Alameda County Central Labor Council. So far, the Alameda cops have not arrested anyone for ignoring the phony restraining order.

The union, seeking a return to the negotiating table, has scaled down its demands to a wage increase of 15 percent — "5 percent now and 10 percent as soon as funds become available." But the Supervisors have not responded to date, and have now hired over 50 scabs.

The vast majority of the workers at the hospitals are Negroes, as are most of the patients. In addition to miserable wages and grinding pressure on the job, the hospital workers are ironically denied a decent medical plan for themselves and families. The hospitals contribute \$5 a month toward Blue Cross, with the worker picking up the tab for the \$10-\$15 additional required.

The workers also never receive any overtime. When, as often happens, they are asked to "stay over a few hours" or "come in tomorrow because we are short," they are forced to take regular time off later.

The picket captain at Highland told me, "We have to picket at seven rat holes [hospital entrances] and we do so from 6 a.m. until 12 midnight. I can't understand why the Board of Supervisors does these things. I have to pay the same price for a loaf of bread as a middle class person. I've worked at the hospital for 14 years. I'm old enough now for my pension and if I retire I will get a total of less than \$200 a month. Not very much money, is it?"

## Malcolm X The Man and His Ideas

By  
George Breitman

25 cents

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# THE MILITANT

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Monday, January 16, 1967

## The Crisis in China

As we go to press, there are conflicting reports of strikes by workers, and violence between pro-and anti-Mao factions in China. The purge initiated by Mao, euphemistically called the "cultural revolution," is aimed at critics of his policies within the ruling bureaucracy. The new stage has apparently been triggered by the decision to take the purge into the factories. There are reports of the formation of workers' units of the Red Guards, and, on the other side, of units of workers opposed to Mao's line. At the same time, the teenage Red Guards themselves appear to be split into opposing factions, carrying on a war of propaganda posters.

In all the reports, however, there is not one single statement of the conflicting views of the opposing factions. Nor is there any information yet concerning whether the masses of workers, who are apparently being appealed to by both sides, are entering into the struggle in their own interests. The lack of information itself is an indication of the lack of democracy within the party and government.

But the issues in the struggle are indicated by the problems facing China on a world scale. While domestic programs undoubtedly are an issue in the dispute between the opposed factions — Mao himself recently referred to the cutting off in 1958 of his disastrous "Great Leap Forward" — the convulsions in China must be seen primarily as an internal reaction to the increasingly difficult international situation China finds herself in largely as a result of Mao's foreign policy.

The defeats of the colonial revolution since the victory in Cuba have helped to isolate China and make it more vulnerable to imperialist attack. In Latin America, Asia and Africa, from Brazil to Algeria to Indonesia, the imperialists have succeeded in temporarily rolling back the revolution. Especially in Indonesia has the defeat of the revolution and the decimation of the Indonesian Communist Party had a profound effect upon China.

It was Mao's opportunist policy, followed by the leadership of the Indonesian Communist Party, of blocking the development of the revolution in Indonesia for the sake of an alliance with the Sukarno wing of the Indonesian bourgeoisie, which was the most important cause for the defeat in the archipelago. This defeat could only have had profound repercussions within China, and generated criticism of Mao's line.

The stubborn sectarianism of Mao has led to the isolation of China among the workers' states. This is most clearly seen in relation to the war in Vietnam. To openly reject a united front against the military aggression of American imperialism in Vietnam with governments, parties and groupings that do not meet with Mao's full approval could only end with the Chinese Communist Party standing alone. This has taken Moscow off the hook, and tended to pin the blame on China for making a common front impossible.

The policy of adulation of Stalin could only have the same result as far as the masses of the other workers states are concerned, who want no part of any return to the cult of Stalin. The increasingly fantastic cult of Mao, which practically proclaims his divinity, has similarly further isolated China.

These results of Mao's policy must have caused great concern within China, including in the bureaucracy, since their immediate result has been to embolden imperialism and increase the imperialist danger to China. The timing and other attendant circumstances show that Mao's foreign policy, and most importantly the disaster in Indonesia, has been one of the major causes of the internal crisis now shaking the country.

## Socialist Directory

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**CHICAGO.** Socialist Workers Party and bookstore, 302 South Canal St., Room 204, Chicago, Ill. 60606. WE 9-5044.

**CLEVELAND.** Eugene V. Debs Hall, 2nd floor west, 9801 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44106. Telephone: 791-1669. Militant Forum meets every Sunday night at 7:30.

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**SEATTLE.** Socialist Workers Party. LA 2-4325.

## PROSPECTS FOR 1967

# Vietnam and the U. S. Economy

By Dick Roberts

As facts and figures are piling up about the state of the U.S. economy at the end of 1966 and the outlook for the coming year, one thing stands out above everything else: the deepening impact of the war in Vietnam.

Direct government spending on the war alone amounted to about \$20 billion in the six-year period from 1961 through 1966, according to the Jan. 2 issue of *U.S. News and World Report*, but it is now up to \$2 billion a month and will cost at least \$24 billion this year.

The total war budget beginning July 1, 1967, *U.S. News* predicts, will hit \$73 to \$77 billion, not far from the peak in World War II of \$81 billion in 1945, and far above the military-spending peak of the Korean War at \$48 billion in 1953.

In 1966, war-plant employment accounted for 29 percent of the year's total rise in manufacturing jobs, according to the Dec. 27 *Wall Street Journal*. Ordnance, communications, electronics, aircraft and shipbuilding spurred by 290,000 jobs, 16 percent over the 1965 level. Air-craft employment alone was 22 percent over the 1965 level.

The giant war-spending plans for 1967 will undoubtedly push total production figures to new highs: "Gross national product, bolstered by rising defense spending," *Business Week* stated Dec. 31, "is expected by most top economists to be in the neighborhood of \$790 billion — an advance of almost \$56 billion (7 percent) from 1966."

In key war-goods industries, *Business Week* predicted the following production gains: aircraft, 20 percent; electrical machinery, 10 percent; instruments, 10 percent; rubber and plastics, 7 percent; chemicals, 6 percent; aluminum, 5 percent; and fabricated metals, 5 percent.

### Two-Sided Effect

But this is just to look at one side of the impact of war-spending on the economy. The other side is that the bigger the war grows, the more it cuts into non-war-goods sectors of the economy. The other side of the high profits and increased production in war supplies is the cut of investments and declines in production of consumer goods.

And at the same time, the war has been accompanied by a rapid increase in prices and interest rates, making it more and more difficult for the average consumer to buy the most expensive products. These two factors — declining consumer-goods production and higher prices — go together to make up what more and more economists are describing as a "recession within a war."

"While the debate continues over whether this country is going to suffer a general business recession," *Wall Street Journal* columnist George Shea writes Jan. 9, "the simple fact is that much of the private portion of the eco-

### ISR Analyzes Wage-Price Hoax

A "wage-price spiral" inflation? According to the capitalist rulers of this country, workers are driving prices up by excessive wage demands. This is the main argument against wage increases and it is the rationale behind the Johnson administration's "wage-price" guideline. A detailed answer by Dick Roberts is contained in the Jan.-Feb. *International Socialist Review*, available for 50 cents a copy from 873 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003.

nomic system is already in a recession." The most noteworthy examples are housing construction, automobile production, and, more recently, steel production and production of electrical appliances.

Shea notes that housing starts have declined from a 1.5 million annual rate for the three months through last April to a lower-than-1.1 million annual rate in the four months through November; automobile production was 4 percent lower in 1966 than 1965 and production schedules for the first quarter of 1967, a whopping 15 percent lower.

The declines in homebuilding and cars account for the fall-offs in steel and electrical appliances. Steel production declined from the May high of 149 percent of the 1957-59 average to 130 percent of that average in the week of Dec. 17.

The inevitable counterpart of these declines is that there has been a wave of layoffs across the country, for the first time in the recent boom. These occurred in spite of the fact that war production drove general unemployment to new lows for the last decade. December layoffs, reflecting a developing pattern, included the following:

At the Louisville, Ky., GE plant which manufactures household refrigeration, dishwasher and disposal units, 5,600; in various Oregon lumber mills, 7,000; at GM plants around the country, 4,000, with more planned by Jan. 9; and at Chrysler's Lynch Road plant in Detroit, 4,700. Chrysler also announced that it would have a week-long layoff of 13,500 employees at their Detroit area plants beginning Jan. 16.

Are these workers finding their ways into the war industry? That is what you would think from the general employment figures, but the answer, according to the Dec. 30 *Wall Street Journal*, is "no." After describing a situation where workers layed off in the Northwest housing slump were finding jobs at the Boeing plant in Seattle, the *Wall Street Journal* continued: "None of this good fortune, it must be stressed, is being enjoyed by anything like a majority of men recently furloughed. Quite the contrary, in fact. In some industries — steel, for example — most men now on layoff are younger workers with little seniority or experience who have had difficulty catching on elsewhere."

"Experienced workers on layoff frequently have a different handicap; unless their experience happens to be at a job such as machinist, which is more or less the same in plants making varied products, it may be of little use outside the industry that furloughed them."

The explanation of the discrepancy between such layoffs in recession-hit industries and a declining overall unemployment is in the increasing employment of women. As the family budget is getting hit harder and harder by

inflationary price rises, more and more women are going to work — and, of course, at lower wages.

Perhaps, at least, the war-inspired recession in the consumer-goods industry will lead to an end to these price rises? That optimistic note has been sounded by various people who are arguing against a tax increase on the grounds that it is no longer "necessary to stop inflation."

But both the argument and the conclusions have little to do with the realities of the capitalists' war-financing schemes. High taxes are part and parcel of the ruling class effort to saddle workers with the vast expense of war production from which the capitalists themselves reap vast profits.

And high prices are just another side of this. They are maintained in the consumer-goods sector to generate new funds for war investment. They are jacked up and up in the war-goods and related sectors in order to reap maximum profit from the war industry itself.

### Actual Price Rises

While congressmen discourse patriotically about the necessity of workers' sacrificing on their wages in order to keep down inflation and finance the war, they say nothing about price rises in the war industry. Noteworthy examples of these, which raised barely a minimum of "objection" from the Johnson administration, were the recent hikes in steel and copper prices.

Other industries which have chalked up big price increases in recent weeks notably include farm machinery. "Farm equipment makers," the *Wall Street Journal* reported Dec. 22, "levied price increases ranging from 2 percent to 9 percent on such items as tractors, combines, plows, planters and corn pickers in November."

"A major food processing concern says three of its big suppliers whose prices had been 'pretty steady in the past' have raised machinery prices up to 10 percent this year."

Food prices are expected to continue their upward spiral in 1967. "Prices of red meat — beef veal and pork —" the *Wall Street Journal* announced Dec. 8, "are expected to begin rising again next spring. One Agriculture Department analyst predicts 1967 meat prices will average about 5 percent above this year."

## N.Y. SWP Sets Lecture Series

NEW YORK — Two spring public lecture series of special interest have been announced by the New York Socialist Workers Party. They will be held on Monday nights, 8 p.m., at 873 Broadway.

The first series, to begin on Monday, Jan. 23, will be a "History of the First and Second Internationals." The lecturer is George Novack, prominent historian and author of *Marxism and Existentialism* and *The Origin of Materialism*. Fee for the course is \$3.

The second series, to begin on March 6, will be nine lectures on "Current Problems of Marxism." They will deal with problems of the colonial struggle, economic and social conflicts in the United States, and the role of the working class. Among the lecturers are: Joseph Hansen, editor of *The Militant*; Barry Sheppard, *Militant* managing editor; Harry Ring, *Militant* editorial staff; Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party and Clifton DeBerry, SWP 1964 presidential candidate. Fee for the course is \$3.

Further information may be obtained by writing to New York Socialist Workers Party, 873 Broadway or calling 982-6051.

WALL STREET JOURNAL



"I'll tell you what money can't buy! The same stuff it bought last week!"

PALACE REVOLT IN AFL-CIO

# Meany vs. Reuther—Basic Issues Reflected

By Farrell Dobbs

The general run of hucksters who pose as "news analysts" in the capitalist press have one thing in common: They tend to reduce issues to the small change of personal conflict. They are well paid for the diversion from honest discussion of serious matters, because outlived capitalism can't afford frank talk. Too many people would become aware of the need for a basic social change.

A deceptive appearance is given of treating things seriously without actually doing so. In the process a plug is gotten in for a basic norm of the capitalist rat race. People are taught that only one thing counts in all situations: What's in it for Number One?

With this approach the hucksters quickly get to the nub of the dispute between Walter Reuther and George Meany in the top bureaucracy of the AFL-CIO. When the two labor federations merged in 1955 Meany headed the AFL and Reuther, the CIO. Meany got the top spot in the merger, while Reuther had to play second fiddle. So — Reuther wants Meany's job.

Only Reuther and Meany themselves can be fully aware of their personal aspirations in the current dispute and, for others, such aims are of no importance. It is the larger aspects of developments within the AFL-CIO that count. Clues to really important matters in the dispute can be found by probing into various key questions: for example, the present situation and needs of the AFL-CIO membership; Meany's policy and what Reuther has to offer in its place. Before examining these questions in particular, a few generalizations seem in order.

## Bureaucratic Fears

The overall picture indicates that a palace revolt is developing within the AFL-CIO bureaucracy, one similar to the Abel-McDonald dispute in the steel union (see Jan. 2 *Militant*). As was the case with McDonald, Meany's policies have gotten dangerously out of gear with the needs of the union membership. Among other bureaucrats, such as Reuther, a feeling is growing that something must be done about it or the whole bureaucracy will face a rank-and-file uprising. When examined from this viewpoint, Reuther's present line — although failing to meet the workers' needs — reflects at least a distorted image of significant new labor trends.

Working people are showing increased concern and resentment over losses in buying power because of war-inflated prices. They are worried about the growing gap between earnings and take-home pay due to tax gouging, imposed mainly to finance an unpopular war. As a result they tend to brush aside Johnson's "guidelines" and press demands for "catch-up" pay increases. There is also growing pressure for an escalator clause in union contracts to keep wages abreast of rising living costs.

Other key issues impelling workers toward struggle are speed-up and bad working conditions; and in some industries they are rapidly being automated out of jobs. Grievances arising over these general issues continue to mount, clogging the present defective apparatus for handling them. Under the impact of these frustrations workers have shown growing militancy across the last year and the trend is spreading throughout the class.

At the same time the capitalist government, to meet its war needs, is preparing to strike new blows at the workers, instead of making concessions to them. Johnson's use of Taft-Hartley injunctions against strikers is on the rise and the Vietnam war is used as a pretext. Stiffer federal laws against labor are in preparation, both new curbs on the right to strike and further government intervention into union affairs along the lines of the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin Law.

son's use of Taft-Hartley injunctions against strikers is on the rise and the Vietnam war is used as a pretext. Stiffer federal laws against labor are in preparation, both new curbs on the right to strike and further government intervention into union affairs along the lines of the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin Law.

## Rising Militancy

Relying on Washington to back them up, employers are stiffening their resistance to union demands. Secretary of Labor Wirtz predicts that 1967 will be "a hard bargaining year," with "a lot of argument" over cost-of-living escalators. Monopoly corporations are spending millions for anti-union propaganda and use of strike-breakers is on the increase. Even union bureaucrats have to bestir themselves in the face of such threats, and in Reuther's case he must keep in mind this year's contract negotiations in auto. Another prod is the mounting tendency among workers to engage in what might be called guerrilla warfare against the capitalists, the government — and the union bureaucrats.

In a number of cases lately the rank and file rejected contract settlements recommended by union bureaucrats, telling them to go back and get more from the company. Opposition is growing to the policy of tying the workers' hands with long-term contracts. Also new is the degree to which bureaucrats have had to tolerate — and sometimes authorize — local strikes. Demands are being pressed for a membership vote in determining contract settlements and in deciding if grievances have been adequately handled. All told, the bureaucrats are experiencing a decline in leadership authority and some among them feel a need to do something about it. They think a little self-reform can do the trick, but the situation is too far gone for that.

Under bureaucratic rule the unions have become wedded to the status quo on the basis of rotten compromises with the capitalist class. Internally the unions have been damaged by witchhunting carried out in the service of the capitalist government. Attempts to organize new layers of workers, few though they have been, have resulted in far more failures than successes. As Reuther admits, "Today, the AFL-CIO represents a smaller proportion of the American labor force than at the time of the merger in December, 1955."

There has been drastic loss of workers' control on the job, which was once powerfully maintained by the militant unions of the 1930s. Organized labor now wields far less economic power than it did in the 1945-46 strike wave. On the great social issues of the day the union movement appears more or less as a lackey of capitalism, instead of meeting its historic role as a crusader for social betterment.

## Actual Disagreement

Although Reuther has no answer to the problem, he does inadvertently expose the bureaucratic tumor lodged in what is alleged to be the brain center of the labor movement. This is especially so in his letter to locals of the United Auto Workers, issued Dec. 29 on behalf of the executive board. Meany emerges in the letter as a dictator who, in disregard of industrial union views within the AFL-CIO Executive Council, has centralized all policy direction in his hands on the basis of old-line craft union conceptions. As against this, Reuther calls for sharing of leadership responsibility through "... creative, frank and meaningful dem-



**WOUNDED SOLDIER.** Working class sons are bearing brunt of sacrifice in Vietnam. Impact of Vietnam war on workers brings death and mutilation of working class youth on the battlefield. It brings inflation, and government and company policies directed against unions at home.

ocratic discussion within the highest councils of the AFL-CIO."

Nothing is said by Reuther about involving the AFL-CIO ranks in "meaningful democratic discussion" of problems so vital to them. It is plain to see that he shares with Meany a desire to keep any discussion bottled up in the Executive Council. A question therefore arises. What program does Reuther have to offer in "democratic" discussion among the bureaucratic elite, and how will it square with the needs of the working class?

## Vietnam Issue

The most vital question facing the working class is the Vietnam war. It is being fought for the sole benefit of profiteering capitalists in this country, who intend to make the workers pay the bill. That is why anyone who supports the war has to wind up with a false line on all other matters affecting the working class. Trade unionists who are becoming aware of this fact also begin to perceive that a grave problem of leadership is involved.

This was evidenced at a recent Chicago conference of unionists opposed to the war. After several speakers had stressed Johnson's duplicity on the Vietnam issue, a unionist said: "We know about the problem of Johnson. Now tell us what to do about the problem of Meany." This dissatisfied unionist was referring to Meany's swift and unqualified approval of every vicious step Johnson takes in escalating the imperialist assault on the Vietnamese people. What then can be expected from Reuther, who terms Meany "narrow and negative" on foreign policy?

In the Dec. 29 letter Reuther says, "There is no basic difference between the UAW and the AFL-CIO in the commitments to resist Communist aggression..." This statement identifies Reuther with Meany in upholding the lying propaganda gimmick used by U.S. imperialism to justify its criminal acts.

Wherever oppressed peoples abroad strive to control their own

affairs, Washington labels the struggle "Communist aggression" and intervenes militarily against them. That means Reuther's "criticism" of the imperialist mobsters reduces itself to a question of the tactics they use. He winds up allied with capitalist "doves" who hope to defeat the Vietnamese by forcing them to "negotiate" under brutal military pressure. Thus, his advocacy of a "negotiated settlement" violates the Vietnamese right of self-determination; and it has the effect of putting imperialist war needs ahead of the American workers' interests.

AFL-CIO members take a different view in one important respect. Despite the Vietnam war, they are pressing for strike action to keep wages abreast of runaway prices. In the sharpening class struggle that results, Meany has reacted by advocating a no-strike pledge at "war-essential" plants and "voluntary dispute-settling machinery" — in short, unconditional surrender to the warlords. On this count "statesman" Reuther calls for "... a comprehensive economic and collective bargaining program to achieve equity for American wage earners on a basis consistent with the total needs of the economy..."

## Leaves Room for LBJ

Capitalists are notorious for putting their profits foremost among "the total needs of the economy." So readers of the UAW letter are left wondering how much "equity" workers would get under Reuther's policy, and how they would go about fighting for it. A clue is offered in a subsequent passage of the letter. It advocates a "... program to enable workers in critical and vital public service industries to achieve equity comparable with other workers under circumstances in which workers in these industries will not be forced to resort to strike action that endangers the health and safety of the public."

But any strike that can be connected with Vietnam, no matter how remotely, is held by John-

son to "endanger the health and safety of the public." That means Reuther invites Johnson's Taft-Hartley injunctions. Like Meany, he violates a basic labor principle that calls for unconditional defense of the right of all workers to strike in support of their class interests.

Concerning the freedom struggle of black people, the letter calls for "... equal rights and equal opportunity not only at the community level and through legislation but within the labor movement itself." When it comes to the deed, however, Reuther shares with Meany responsibility for the crime of denouncing advocates of black power; which is to say, he lines up against the militant wing of the black freedom fighters. Like other union bureaucrats, he has failed to act forthrightly in combating attempts to stir up racial antagonisms within the working class. Because of such false policies all workers, black and white, suffer injury to their basic class interests.

## Demagogic Stand

Like a Democrat running for office, Reuther seeks to divert political attention from basic class issues by stressing reform aims that lend themselves to tokenism and gradualism. He does so through demagogic stress on important social needs such as improved education, social security and health care; also on problems like urban renewal, air and water pollution, etc. This, in turn, gives him a bridge toward collaboration with liberal capitalist politicians, a subject he has failed to mention in criticizing Meany's policies.

The fact is that Reuther has no important differences with Meany on the question of keeping labor enslaved in capitalist politics. At the 1966 UAW convention he denounced any attempt to break away from the Democratic Party, asserting that he was "... not going to flirt with that kind of reckless, dangerous idea of forming labor's own political party." He said, "Labor must seek a basic realignment of the two major political parties, which would get all the reactionaries in the Republican Party where they belong and make the Democratic Party a truly liberal people's party." This "realignment" fantasy is simply a demagogic device to keep labor tied to a party run by a gang of strikebreakers, racists and warlords.

On every major count Reuther's policies show that AFL-CIO members would have nothing going for them in any "democratic" debate he might have with Meany inside the Executive Council. What the workers need is a genuine left wing in the unions, based upon rank-and-file militants. To be effective the left wing should be constructed around a program of concrete demands. These should include:

Full and unfettered membership discussion of all problems confronting the workers, and rank-and-file control over all union affairs.

A cost-of-living escalator in union contracts to offset rising prices.

A reduced work week with no cut in pay. Unemployment compensation at union wages for all jobless persons 18 or over, whether or not they have been previously employed.

Equal rights in the unions and on the job for black workers and for members of other minorities. Full union support to the civil rights struggle as a whole.

Bring the troops home now. Use the money spent for war to meet social needs here at home.

Build an independent labor party based on the unions.



## PHAM VAN DONG

## Viet Premier on U. S. War Role

By Ed Smith

JAN. 10 — North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong's statement to *New York Times* correspondent Harrison Salisbury in Hanoi, Jan. 2, is a strong reaffirmation of north Vietnam's militant opposition to Lyndon Johnson's aggression.

The full statement, which was printed in the Jan. 8 *New York Times*, is divided into two main sections. In the first part, Pham Van Dong discusses the history and present development of the war, while in the second he discusses Hanoi's attitude towards ending the war.

Pham Van Dong begins by asking the question: "Who started the war? Who was the cause of the war?" His answer is unequivocal: Washington first intervened in Vietnamese affairs when it broke the 1954 Geneva accords by establishing the Diem regime in south Vietnam. This intervention was followed by three main stages of escalation.

At the first stage, with the weakening of Diem's rule in 1962, the Pentagon attempted to "pacify" south Vietnam with limited military forces. This stage ended with the assassination of Diem and the subsequent political upheavals and overturns in Saigon.

"After the overthrow of the Diem government," Pham Van Dong continues, "the situation in south Vietnam became even more complicated. . . . The American government was confronted with a new escalation. They saw that it was very difficult for them to win the war in south Vietnam and they thought that if, perhaps, they struck at the north, they might save the situation in the south."

## Short Sighted

"The military are rather short-sighted, and if you will pardon my saying so, very stupid, and now they have to pay for their stupidity. They had thought that after some months we would have to kneel before them, and if we had to succumb it would be very easy for them to solve the question in south Vietnam."

Pham Van Dong points out that the Pentagon in the second main stage of escalation "thought that sending an army of 150,000 to 200,000, they would be masters in south Vietnam." By the end of 1965, however, this had been accomplished and the military situation for Washington's armies had not improved.

In the third stage of escalation which followed, General Westmoreland outlined a four-step strategy towards the crushing of the National Liberation Front: "First to smash the force of the Liberation Army — its battle force; secondly, pacification; thirdly, consolidation of the puppet administration and army; fourthly, cut the lines between north and south."

On each one of these points, the north Vietnamese premier reminds us, the Pentagon's military plans have failed. The strength of the NLF is growing, not declining; pacification — as many top U.S. officials now admit — has been a fiasco; the Saigon regime has no popular support and its army is collapsing; and it has been im-



Ho Chi Minh

possible to cut the lines between the north and the south.

"We should talk at length about these points," he continues. "So many think that the material superiority of the Americans will finally win the war in south Vietnam. However it is very dangerous to think this way, particularly for the Americans to think that way — that by new escalations they will be victorious due to material strength."

Premier Phan Van Dong then takes up a most vital question — the difference between the morale of the revolutionaries and that of the American troops in the invasionary armies: "We can say it is an unjust war, carried on for no reason, a kind of war in which the Americans have no advantage."

"From our point of view it is a sacred war for independence, freedom, life. It stands for everything. This war, for this generation and for future generations. That is why we are determined to fight this war and win this war. Our victory stems from this very resoluteness. That is the key to a solution of all our problems."

And contrasting the NLF with the Saigon army, "All are Vietnamese, but why on the other side are they so bad and on our side so talented, so supremely talented — talented without precedent? I think there has never been such a people's war fought with so much talent, and the Americans have to admit that. Why? Because we are fighting a just war."

## U.S. Occupation

Pham Van Dong passes to the question of the influence of the huge U.S. military occupation forces on the people in the cities in south Vietnam: "The more American troops are put into south Vietnam, the more complicated problems they create. . . . The Vietnamese people in south Vietnam are seeing for themselves that the United States is fighting a colonial war, the most brutal in history. . . .

"The expeditionary corps is entirely upsetting the economy of south Vietnam. There is increasing inflation. People cannot live. And another thing. There is the bad effect on social and cultural life. You have heard it said that Saigon is now a very huge brothel. Even girls of the upper classes are prostitutes to American officers. . . .

"These are things which should be admitted by the Americans. . . . What will you obtain by introducing more and more troops? The puppets are collapsing. These are fundamental points in south Vietnamese politics."

On the question of the morale and preparedness of the people

in north Vietnam, Premier Pham Van Dong recapitulates the points which Salisbury himself had drawn in previous dispatches: The ability of the country to withstand increased bombing; its continuing economic viability; its dedication to fight to the end.

"How long will this war last? . . . That kind of question surprises us, and any Vietnamese. How can we decide how long the war will be and how can we decide when aggression will stop, when aggressors will stop sending troops to crush us? That is why we are preparing for a long war. How many years? Ten, 20 — what do you think, about 20?"

In the second part of his statement, Phan Van Dong draws the inherent revolutionary conclusions from the actual state of affairs in the Vietnam war. "For us a settlement is a very simple question. As far as we are concerned, this is a war of aggression, a colonial war, an unjust war. So a settlement is to stop it."

He continues, "The whole problem lies in that. So long as the Americans do not think that way, there will be no solution to the war. They will continue to fight against us and we will continue to oppose them."

"Is there any way to make them understand? That is your business, and people like you must shoulder the responsibility. People sometimes say something which is not very correct and speak about the honor of America. Where lies the honor of the United States?"

## Legitimate Honor

"The legitimate honor of the United States consists in not fighting an unjust war, and if the United States have fought an unjust war, it would be better for them not to speak of honor any longer. Am I correct in saying this?"

Pham Van Dong then states that it is wrong to construe Hanoi's four-point program as "conditions" to be negotiated. "They are merely truths. . . . Whichever way you go around, finally you must come to the four points." (These points are: recognition of the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam and the withdrawal of U.S. forces; pending reunification of Vietnam, respect for the Geneva agreement barring foreign forces; settlement of south Vietnam's internal affairs by the south Vietnamese under the guidance of the NLF; and reunification of north and south Vietnam.)

In addition, he states Hanoi's attitude toward the cessation of U.S. bombing of north Vietnam: unconditional and permanent cessation of U.S. bombing. "This point has its own logic, and the reaction of the world testifies to its importance. . . .

"Now here is something else," Pham Van Dong adds. "Up to now there has not been a bit of goodwill from the United States government side. . . . We know that while speaking of peace the United States ruling circles and the Pentagon are continuing their war. So we are not to be cheated."

"As far as world opinion is concerned, maybe at first it was deceived, but slowly it came to understand, as experience showed, that each time the Americans want to escalate, it is always accompanied by a peace move, from the Baltimore speech to the present."

The north Vietnamese premier concludes his statement with a clarification of the third point of the four-point program: "Since the National Front is the clear-sighted leader of the struggle of the people, it has won warm support, it has now the only genuine representative of the people of south Vietnam. . . . If the American ruling circles persist in not recognizing the truth, they will come up against bitter surprises."

## ...Visitors to N. Vietnam



Diane Nash Bevel

(Continued from Page 1)

Doctors told her that one of the worst features of this bomb is that some of the fragments are so small that it is often difficult to locate and remove them once they enter the body.

However, Miss Deming continued, the second very important thing she learned in north Vietnam is that "this attempt to terrorize the people into surrendering is just not going to work. Unlike our people, it is very clear to these people what they are fighting for — even the children."

"For them it is simply a matter of getting rid of foreign domination of their country," she continued. "They will fight to the last child to win their independence. If they are bombed back into the jungle, they will fight from the jungle. They are quite prepared to do this."

"This is something the American people must look at," she continued gravely. "The only way to defeat these people is to exterminate them. Our government is moving in that direction. The American people must ask themselves if this is what they want."

Grace Mora Newman, a blunt, plain-spoken mother of four, told the newsmen: "One of the things I'm grateful to my brother Dennis for is that he gave me the incentive to become active in the peace movement and try to do something about this war."

"I have a 16-year-old boy," she continued. "I can't see him dying — or becoming a murderer — for the capitalist government we have in this country."

## Gives Views

The U.S. would do much better, she said, to concentrate on the poverty, the discrimination and the other problems we have here at home. She said the rulers of this country had succeeded in achieving, by a variety of means, a great degree of disunity among anti-war forces in this country and she strongly urged maximum efforts toward unity by all of these forces.

Pat Griffith dealt with a question that newsmen have been putting to them ever since they got back to the U.S. This is the so-called "terror" which the south Vietnamese guerrillas are supposed to be directing against innocent civilians.

The "terror" of the guerrillas, she said, is directed against a government with which they are at war, not at civilians. She explained the reasons for the frequent assassination of village chiefs. These chiefs had traditionally been elected by the local population. But under the Diem dictatorship, federal chiefs were appointed from other areas. The principal function of these chiefs was to act as informers against villagers who were opposed to the Diem tyranny. Those informed on were jailed, tortured and murdered.

Mrs. Griffith told of two women they had met in a north Viet-

namese hospital who had been in a south Vietnamese prison after being turned in by such chiefs. These women, she said, were tortured by having hot irons inserted in their vaginas. Seven years later, under treatment they were still bleeding internally.

Asked by one newsmen if they didn't realize they were "being used" by the north Vietnamese regime, Barbara Deming replied: "It is undeniable that what we are saying is useful to them. But it is a truthful report and we believe it will also prove useful to the American people."

Pat Griffith spoke angrily of how the U.S. bombers are destroying progress made over the past ten years in north Vietnam. She described a housing development that had been bombed in a workers' section of Hanoi.

"It was wiped out," she said. "You can only see the remains of the buildings. We are destroying housing and medical and educational facilities. This country can't stand to see a communist country make any progress. It exposes our myth. Why do we have to destroy people who have so little?"

## Lazy Dog Bombs

Asked to comment on a State Department denial of an earlier statement by the women that the U.S. was using lazy dog bombs in north Vietnam, the three women reacted with utter amazement and Pat Griffith held aloft half a shell from one such bomb she had brought back with her. (Actually, the Defense Department denial was a quibble about the kind of fragmentation bomb being used.)

The women reported that they had visited two of the airmen shot down over north Vietnam and being held prisoner. Since there are no mail deliveries between the U.S. and north Vietnam, the men gave them letters from themselves and 20 other prisoners to mail from the states.

Asked what the physical state of the prisoners were, Grace Newman commented: "They looked a lot better than my brother did when I visited him at Fort Dix and Fort Meade! (The Fort Hood Three had been subjected to barbaric discipline while in the stockade.)

The other women added that prisoners seemed in good shape.

On their return to the U.S., Mrs. Newman had one of the prisoner's letters taken from her, along with other material, by custom officials in New York. However, Mrs. Griffith, who went to her Syracuse home by way of Buffalo, brought the other 21 letters in and mailed them.

Asked why these hadn't been taken, she explained the custom officials had taken a number of things from her baggage, but not examined her purse in which she was carrying the letters, some photos and the lazy dog shell.

It was perhaps a seemingly commentary on some of the newsmen present, that as the conference was breaking up Mrs. Griffith suddenly noticed that one of them had stolen the half bombshell. However, she had apparently anticipated such a possibility. She has the other half at home.

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# Castro's Jan. 2 Speech Cites Cuba's Gains

By Harry Ring

Speaking before a huge throng gathered in Havana's Plaza de la Revolución Jan. 2 in celebration of the eighth anniversary of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro cited the impressive gains made by the revolution during the past eight years.

Discussing the advances in industry, agriculture, education, health and social welfare, he said the most remarkable gain of all was the continuing high morale of the Cuban people and the steady deepening of their revolutionary consciousness. He said the Cuban people have refuted those whom he characterized as "pessimists" who believe that people will toil and sacrifice only for immediate material gain.

The devotion of the Cuban people to their tasks, he said, has thoroughly shattered this capitalist concept and has verified the "optimistic" concept of man held by revolutionary Marxists.

He saluted revolutionary fighters throughout the world, declaring Cuba's particular solidarity with guerrilla fighters in Latin America. He singled out the Vietnamese people for special tribute for their heroic resistance to U.S. aggression and declared that 1967 would be known in Cuba as "The Year of Heroic Vietnam."

In extending greetings to revolutionary fighters around the globe, Fidel expressed special greetings for Che Guevara who left Cuba secretly two years ago.

Castro declared: "And we send our special message of warmth and love, because it is something we feel very deeply, born in the heat of our struggle, to Major Ernesto Guevara and his comrades, wherever they may be."

## Che Guevara

"The imperialists have killed Che many times and in many places. But we are expecting that one day, where imperialism least expects it, a battle-hardened, healthy, fighting Major Ernesto Guevara will arise from his ashes like the phoenix and that some day we will again have very concrete news from Che."

Discussing the need to further develop a division of labor among the revolutionary leadership, Fidel said that it should not continue to be a tradition that he address each of the mass rallies. It would be good, he said, if at various

times such rallies were addressed by Raul Castro; Juan Almeida, head of the armed forces; President Dorticos; Armando Hart and others.

Slogans should be changed too, he said. Rather than such slogans as "Everyone with Fidel," it should be "Everyone with the Party" or "Everyone with the Central Committee of the Party."

An added reason for achieving a greater division of labor in the leadership, he added, is that the central leaders have waged continuous struggle for 15 years and while they are not tired, they have not had proper opportunity for study.

## Leadership Responsibility

"A heavy load has fallen on the shoulders of a relatively small group of leaders," he said. "We are running the risk of running behind. And the more the functions are divided, the greater collective experience will be accumulated. The more the functions are divided, the more time the comrades will have to dedicate to their own advancement. The workers advance, the people advance, the leadership must also advance."

Discussing the role of the armed forces, which he said is making major contributions in agriculture and construction as well as maintaining the country's defense, he said that the annual Jan. 2 military parade should also no longer be a regular event.

Citing the costs and expenditure of manpower involved in staging the parades, he proposed that instead, they be alternated with parades of technical school graduates who would be demonstrating another aspect of the country's strength. Instead of displaying new weapons each year, some parades could be devoted to a display of new agricultural equipment.

Fidel's summary of the gains of the revolution should prove impressive and heartening to partisans of the revolution who are aware of the difficulties Cuba has faced. These are some of the advances he cited:

- There are now 150,000 fully supported scholarship students in the country and next year the figure will surpass 200,000.

- Seven thousand teachers a year are now being trained.



**CHILDREN OF CUBA.** Some of the most impressive gains of the Cuban Revolution have been in the areas of health, education and ending racial discrimination, which have benefitted the children and made their future brighter than for the rest of Latin America.

- The number of nurses and public health workers has increased several fold.

- There are now more than 40,000 hospital beds in the country as against 20,000 when the revolution came to power. Complete medical care is available in every area of the country.

- Prior to the revolution, the Cuban mortality rate was 13 out of each one thousand of the population annually. It is now down to 6.8 deaths per thousand. This figure is lower than all of Latin America, Fidel said, and he believes it is also lower than the mortality rate in Canada.

- A similar gain has been registered on infant mortality. Before the revolution, the figure for children dying in their first year was 60 per thousand. Now it has dropped to 37.

- All Cubans now pay reduced rents and almost a majority pay none. Beginning in 1970 all rents will be abolished except for those who do not meet their present obligations.

- In 1965 Cuba set a goal of four million hens producing 60 million eggs a month. That goal wasn't reached. But in 1966 five million hens produced more than 90 million eggs a month.

- Less than two years ago there were only 60,000 cows in the national plan for artificial insemination which greatly accelerates production. At the end of 1966 there were 1,200,000 cows in the plan. This will mean, in a few years, a very much higher production of beef and milk.

- Indicating the extent of the growth of citrus fruit production, he said that on the Isle of Pines, alone, more fruit will have been planted than in all of Israel, which is one of the world's biggest citrus exporters. A similar fruit project is being developed in Pinar del Rio Province.

- The amount of new land put into production in sugar cane and other agriculture will be greater this year than in any previous one. The amount of land that will be fertilized will also be greater than ever.

- The coffee industry is being rejuvenated through the use of fertilizers for the first time.

- Since the revolution 300,000-400,000 timber-bearing trees have been planted in a country which

knew no reforestation under capitalism. By 1970 it is planned to have a billion trees planted.

- Crops are being developed that Cuba never had before. These include strawberries, grapes, asparagus and onions.

Discussing U.S. efforts to throttle the Cuban economy and starve out the revolution, Fidel declared:

"Imperialism has helped all our people . . . to become international-minded. Just as we all have a common enemy, we acquire an awareness of the duty and the need of practicing consistent internationalism, and an understanding of why the policy of Cuba and the foreign policy of our revolution is the firm and inflexible one of giving support to the revolutionary movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. (Applause)."

"We know this policy represents the feelings of our revolutionary people . . . And in case

anyone wants proof of this, we can ask this multitude whether or not they are in agreement with this internationalist foreign policy of our people, our government and our party. (Prolonged applause)."

"Nobody can say that this policy — which entails risks — has been imposed on the people by a small group of men in power . . . The revolutionary leaders, absolutely identified with the people, are interpreting the sentiments, the will and the consciousness of the people."

"We are very lucky that our people have acquired this awareness in just eight years. That is why, if anyone were to ask us what has been the most important effect of the revolution among all of these events and victories that we spoke of, we would say: The most extraordinary consequence of this revolution has been the incredible revolutionary consciousness that has been developed among our people."

## ...Lynching of Powell

(Continued from Page 1)

is Adam Clayton Powell, and if the fatbacks of Congress decide to punish him this week, then we will have admitted finally that we have all descended to the sinkhole with our rulers . . . he is accused of practicing in public what every other Congressman, with almost no exceptions, does in private."

To underline the hypocritical and racist nature of the congressional action, numerous articles have been written in the Negro press cataloging the various infractions of proper conduct committed by Powell's white accusers.

The array of evidence that has been dug up within the space of a few weeks is impressive. One article in the Jan. 14, 1967 *Baltimore Afro-American* claims that in 1959 a study of nepotism in congress showed that 40 different congressmen employed their wives as members of their congressional staffs.

### Mendel Rivers

While Powell is charged with buying plane tickets for friends with committee credit cards, Drew Pearson charged in his *New York Post* column on Jan. 9, 1967 that Representative L. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.) "uses the Air Force as his own private airline. Whenever he wants to take off for any part of the world, whether it be his home town of Charlestown or some far-away place, he calls for a jet."

The disgusting sanctimonious racism of the congressmen who

judged Powell is reflected in the white capitalist press. The *New York Times*, for example, actually says in its Jan. 10 editorial that Powell "escaped censure as long as he did partly because of his race."

A quick check at the historical record shows that not since 1807 has a House chairman been deposed for reasons other than party disloyalty. By singling out Powell for attack, the lawmakers in Washington are reinforcing the racist attitude that black people cannot responsibly hold important political positions.

The actions against Powell began in earnest this summer just after he made statements identifying himself with the ideas of black power, and called for the first national black power conference in September. Although he quickly drew back from his original position, the action against him served as a slap on the wrist for swinging with the tide of militancy.

In its statement on the action against Powell, the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee blamed Johnson and the national Democratic Party. And at a rally for Powell on the capital steps the day his seat was taken away, Stokely Carmichael told the crowd that the Democrats have started to take the support of black people for granted. When Johnson comes up for election in '68, he told them, "We'll spit in his eye."

## A Grudging Admission on Cuba

The eighth anniversary of the Cuban revolution was marked in the Jan. 2 *New York Times* by an article by Herbert L. Matthews, a member of the paper's editorial board. Matthews, who was sympathetic to the revolution before it turned in a socialist direction, found plenty of criticisms to note in this column. But he also found it necessary to admit there had been significant progress:

"On the good side is a remarkable expansion of education at all levels. It is especially important in vocational and professional studies where graduates are beginning to replace technicians lost by the early exodus from Cuba . . ."

"There have been improvements in child care, public health, housing, roads, and the typical leveling down of the whole social and economic structure that accompanies revolutionary 'equality.' This also means, however, that the poorest and most backward elements, especially in the rural areas, have been 'leveled up.' Cuban Negroes, for the first time, have equal status with whites, economically and socially."

In ironic contrast was an article in the previous day's *New York World Journal Tribune* reporting the comments on Cuba's eighth anniversary by John Bartlow Martin, the ambassador to the Dominican Republic from 1962 to 1964, and Lyndon Johnson's top advisor during the U.S. invasion of that country in 1965.

"We can't stand another Castro in the Dominican Republic," Martin stated in the *World Journal* interview, "—or anywhere else in the Caribbean region. It's too close to home."

"If anti-Communist intervention is necessary again," the *World Journal* states, "Martin said, 'it would be best for the hemisphere to work through the Organization of American States instead of unilaterally. Asked why the U.S. had moved into Santo Domingo without consulting the OAS, he replied: "The situation was such that the president couldn't afford to wait.'"

# Letters From Our Readers

[This column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Writers' initials will be used, names being withheld unless authorization is given for use.]

## Tuition Hike As Weapon

Berkeley, Calif.

In response to your articles on "Student Power" at Berkeley (12-19-66) and the "Tuition Fight" at NYU (12-19-66), I write this letter.

The tuition hike at NYU is a reality, but at the University of California it is a threat being used by our beloved new governor, Mr. Reagan, "to help curb political activity at Berkeley." This use of a tuition hike as punishment seems so in keeping with the capitalist mind that it is sickening to behold.

The governor, and the government in general, realize that many, if not most, of the student activists come from working-class families which can barely, if at all, afford to put their children through school. These students are

compelled to "work their way through" and this is, of course, very difficult. It usually involves heavy borrowing of money when possible; several part-time jobs; very little sleep; and whatever parental help can be given.

Raising the tuition from the present \$80 per quarter to the rumored level of \$300-\$400 per quarter would force many of these student activists to drop out of school which would seriously hurt the cause of student power now, and that of the socialist party in the future.

The result is, of course, a very pleasant prospect to the political bosses who are attempting to bring it about. We must resist this typically capitalist attempt to dispose of student activists, not by kicking them out, but by starving them out and then replacing them with students whose families can afford to pay higher tuitions and who are likely to hold "acceptable" political views, each of whom will be ready to take his place as an intellectual servant of capitalism, around him, as so aptly put by Lew Jones in *The Militant*.

Enclosed please find my contribution to the Socialist Fund. Keep up the good work.

Glenn Shelly

Our children come to the school around 9 a.m. and go home around noon. While they are at the center, they draw, paint, learn something about letters and numbers, and make lots of noise.

There are 25 children coming to the Sunflower Headstart school now. Since the children have been coming to the center we have somehow managed to give them snacks or a hot meal. We go to Greenville to buy food where it's cheaper than here in Sunflower. Milk is the most expensive thing. One day we made up some powdered commodity milk. While most of the children drank it, several noticed it was Commodity milk. Some children don't get any breakfast, so we try to feed them something every day.

The adult class was a political education class meant to help people who intend to run for political office, and to help people understand the meaning of their vote and what they are voting for.

The first class was taught by the staff volunteer, and classes in the future will be taught also by Otis Brown. The classes discussed federal poverty programs, what has happened in Mississippi as a result of these programs, the effects the Nov. 8 election will have on these programs, and the responsibility of city and county

## Thought for the Week

"The Democrats are the biggest bunch of elected hypocrites in history." — Congressman Adam Clayton Powell.

offices and how these responsibilities can be met better than they have in the past.

There was a hearing in Oxford, before Judge Clayton, to determine whether or not Moorhead, Ruleville and Doddsville, would also get to have elections held over again as in Sunflower. Ruleville and Doddsville will not have new elections because the people who complained and testified were not registered voters at the time the last elections were held. Moorhead might get new elections. The judge will notify our lawyers of the election date and how long voters will have to have been registered.

We need clothes to give to the children. We also need a car worse than anything to help transport children to the center and to bring adults to the night classes when it's cold. We could easily have more children if we had a car to bring them. We are trying to feed the children, but it costs about \$6 a day to feed 25 children and we have trouble getting that up every day. We badly need any financial

contributions you can afford. Send to: Sunflower County Improvement Association, P.O. Box 398, Sunflower, Miss. 38778.

Otis Brown, President  
Betty Humphrey, Sec'y  
Margaret Kibbee,  
Staff Volunteer

## The Robbed and the Robber

Santa Cruz, Calif.

It seems to me easy to understand that coalition politics is a mixture of principles, that are in direct conflict with one another.

One is capitalist politics, which prefers concessions, or reforming or reshaping its platforms, as a bribe to labor not to take over the world's wealth (which is produced entirely by labor and legally expropriated by the rich).

The other is working class politics which aims toward socialized ownership and management of the means of production.

How in hell can the robbed deal with the robbers on a "coexistence" basis and expect to win?

H.C.B.

## Weekly Calendar

### CHICAGO

GI AND THE WAR IN VIETNAM. Speaker: Bruce Hendrix. Fri., Jan. 20, 8 p.m. Debs Hall, 302 S. Canal St. Contrib. 50 cents. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

### DETROIT

THE REUTHER-MEANY DISPUTE — And the New Rank and File. Speaker: Frank Lovell. Fri., Jan. 20, 8 p.m. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

### LOS ANGELES

CRISIS IN BRITAIN. Speaker: Hayden Perry, native of Britain, writer for *The Militant*. Fri., Jan. 20, 8:30 p.m. 1702 E. Fourth St. Contrib. \$1. Aup. Militant Labor Forum.

### MARXIST COMMENTARY

A bi-weekly analysis of the news by Theodore Edwards, So. Calif. chairman of the Socialist Workers Party. Mon., Jan. 23, 6:45 p.m. (repeated Thurs., Jan. 26, 12:45 p.m.) KPFC-FM (90.7 on your dial.)

### NEW YORK

CIVIL WAR IN CHINA? A Marxist analysis by Barry Sheppard, managing editor of *The Militant*. Fri., Jan. 20, 8:30 p.m. 873 Broadway, at 18th St. Contrib. \$1. Aup. Militant Labor Forum.

### TWIN CITIES

THE "GRAND COALITION" IN GERMANY. Speaker: John Dries, Mpls. Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Jan. 20, 8:30 p.m. 1704 Hennepin Ave. Rm. 240. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

## On Truth-Twisting

Long Beach, Calif.

It occurs to me that capitalism, with its usual truth-twisting tendencies, has done so with the Vietnam crisis. The so-called Vietcong have proved themselves to be the true "Spirit of '76" boys. The U.S. and its allies are the Benedict Arnolds of world progress.

Also, Cardinal Spellman, in the "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men" season, says that only a military victory will suffice in Vietnam. Even the Vatican is ashamed at these utterances and has indicated that the Pope and other high dignitaries of the Catholic Church do not condone Cardinal Spellman's utterances.

J.P.W.

## A Renewal

New Britain, Conn.

Enclosed is \$3 for my subscription for 1967. I firmly believe you are doing very good work in exposing the injustices of a brutal power which uses in a cowardly way its military supremacy to invade and try to subdue people of other countries.

A.P.

## Report from Mississippi

Sunflower, Miss.

The Headstart school is held in our center every day now, and last week we held the first adult class in the center.

## It Was Reported in the Press

**Commie Front Exposed** — The true face of the allegedly anti-communist American Legion has been bared by Let Freedom Ring, a patriotic recorded phone message service operating out of the Atlanta, Ga., home of Lester Maddox. The message reveals that the Legion magazine willfully accepted ads from the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. which buys some Red tobacco from Yugoslavia. Indicating a lack of clarity about its past role, the message credits the Legion with being an organization that "used to fight communism with every fiber."

**Statistics Dep't.** — Americans consumed 542 billion coffin nails last year, 2.5 percent more than 1965. A further modest increase is anticipated for 1967.

**Vidiotland (I)** — Reporting on a new study, "Television for Children," the Jan. 1 *New York Times* said: "Any parent who has taken the time to view the standard children's programs knows that the cartoons are not only old, but frequently poor in taste and quality . . . Probably most offensive is the by now almost standard plot of the space-exploit cartoons with foreign-appearing, usually Oriental villains . . . If this is a form of pollution — contaminating the future with the diseases of the past — the frequently sick jokes of the cartoon-jockeys are equally offensive. Worst of all are the MCs who try to get adult laughs out of double entendres pulled out of the mouths of babes."

**Vidiotland (II)** — Twenty-four percent of American homes now have two or more television sets.

**Vidiotland (III)** — A Scotch minister, intent on reviving worship in the home, suggests that families should say grace before settling down before the box. If grace before meals, why not before television, he asks.

**American Way of Death** — Operators of the Beth David Cemetery in Elmont, N.Y., aren't going to let striking cemetery workers prevent them from carrying out their humanitarian obligations to the dead. To demonstrate their concern, they per-

mitted one group of mourners to dig a grave themselves and even provided two shovels and a pick to do it. Before handing out the digging equipment, however, they required a \$10 deposit.

**Semantic Difference?** — President Johnson rejected an officially commissioned portrait of himself by Peter Hurd as "the ugliest thing I ever saw." The director of the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute said it was "very realistic" and "a good likeness."

**Profitable Puzzle** — The Par Company of New York has become known as the Rolls Royce of the puzzle business. Its specialty is de luxe jigsaw puzzles. Mostly the company turns out individual puzzles to special order. John Henriques, the co-owner, says they do a good job because they like their work and because they only do jobs for people they like. Curiously, the people they like include such names as Rockefeller, DuPont who pay anywhere from \$50 to \$2,000.

**Getting Nervous** — After em-

ployees in a Granite Falls, Wash., bank were successfully organized by the Teamsters, and a New Jersey bank was organized by the AFL-CIO, the American Bankers Association organized a seminar on union organization and how to block it. One "industrial relations authority" entitled his contribution, "An Ounce of Prevention."

**Corn Merchants Special** — The Empire Room at New York's Waldorf Astoria has reopened and, according to the manager, will feature top-drawer talent befitting the clientele. "For example," he said, "this month we are having a convention of the National Association of Manufacturers. A man like Guy Lombardo fits in with the NAM, I think." We do, too.

**Inflation Note** — A researcher quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* says the average market value of the chemicals in the human body, which used to be quoted at 89 cents, is now around \$800. He attributes the rise to increased demand for enzymes and nucleic acids.

—Harry Ring

## Announcing The

Jan.-Feb. 1967

## International Socialist Review

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# Florida Governor Plans Mexican-American Unionist Privately Run Gestapo Urges Amnesty for Blanco

By Arthur Maglin

Governor Claude Kirk of Florida has set up a private police force, answerable only to himself. The head of the private police force, George R. Wackenhut, said at a news conference that "I can assure you we are not going to become a Gestapo." But he said his investigations would not necessarily be limited to criminals, although the announced aim of the private police force is supposedly to drive organized crime out of Florida.

Wackenhut is president of the Wackenhut Corporation, a nationwide private detective agency that issues a monthly anti-Communist bulletin.

Kirk said that Florida would pay Wackenhut \$1 a year for his services and that the right-wing Wackenhut Corp. would be paid cost plus profits from money "volunteered by interested private citizens." The governor plans to keep secret the names of those persons contributing money to pay for his private cops.

## Notes Danger

In criticizing the private police force, Florida Secretary of State Thomas Adams said, "There is always the danger that over the years such a private police force, answerable only to one man, could take on some of the characteristics of a Gestapo, something which we have fought wars to defeat."

The Wackenhut Corp. is one of

## Protestors Picket Ft. Leavenworth on Fort Hood 3 Case

More than a hundred people from throughout the Midwest gathered at Lansing, Kansas, Jan. 6 and walked five miles to the Army's Fort Leavenworth prison where they demonstrated on behalf of the Fort Hood Three, the three GIs now serving prison terms for refusing to fight in an "illegal, immoral and unjust" Vietnam war.

Organized by the Fort Hood Three Defense Committee and the Kansas City Area Committee to End the War in Vietnam, the anti-war demonstration included people from Minneapolis, Denver, Iowa City, Chicago, Columbia, Mo. and elsewhere in the Midwest.

## Ordered to Go

The three GIs — Pfc. James Johnson, Pvt. Dennis Mora and Pvt. David Samas — were ordered aboard a plane to Vietnam after they had filed suit in federal courts for an injunction against fighting in an undeclared, illegal war. They were court martialled for refusing to obey the order even though their legal action is still in the courts. Johnson and Samas were sentenced to five years at hard labor and Mora to three years.

While the demonstrators marched in front of Fort Leavenworth with signs protesting the imprisonment of the three and calling for an end to the Vietnam war, a group of right-wing hoodlums jeered from across the highway, but there was no serious incidents.

The action received publicity on television in the area and in the press. The marchers brought along a sound truck and used it to explain the purpose of the action.

Information on the case may be obtained from the Fort Hood Three Defense Committee, 5 Beekman St., New York, N.Y. 10038.



the largest private detective agencies in the United States. Its board of directors includes prominent big businessmen, retired generals and former FBI agents.

For several years, the corporation has mailed out the monthly *Wackenhut Security Review*, and claims to be "acutely aware of the threat of Communism." The review warns against hopes of "peaceful coexistence" between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The September, 1966 issue intimated that there were Communist "developments" at a number of American universities including St. John's University in New York City, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Chicago.

The August, 1966 *Review* dealt with efforts to "disrupt" the 1964 Democratic Convention at Atlantic City "by Negro demonstrators who kept up their demands, despite compromise attempts, that the Mississippi Freedom Democrats be seated." The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the review intimated, was "substantially under the influence of the Communist Party."

The worldwide campaign to save Hugo Blanco, the Peruvian revolutionary peasant leader who faces the death sentence, has received significant new support.

Cesar Chavez, leader of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee AFL-CIO in California, has sent letters to Peru's President Belaúnde Terry and the Supreme Council calling for amnesty for Hugo Blanco. The United Farm Workers is the union which has been carrying out strikes against California grape growers during the past year.

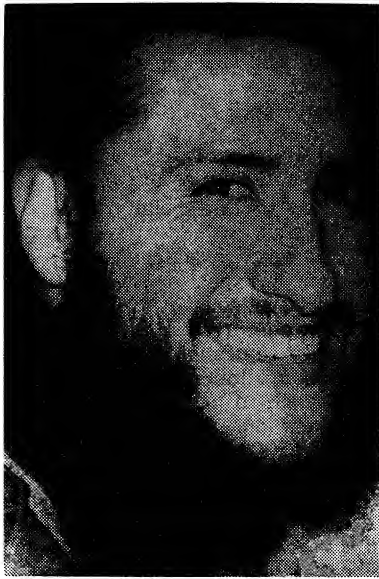
In addition to sending the letters in support of Blanco, Chavez has arranged for a speaker to tell the union members about Blanco's case and the conditions of the farm workers in Peru.

One of the broadest defense campaigns has been carried out in Italy where many significant political figures and organizations have expressed solidarity with Blanco. Recently, two vice-presidents of the Chamber of Deputies, Maria Cinciaro Rodano of the Communist Party and Sandro Pertini, one of the leading figures in the Italian resistance during the war, have sent telegrams to Peruvian President Belaúnde Terry. Telegrams have also been sent by Terracini, leader of the Communist group in the Senate, by two socialist senators, and by several Christian Democrat members of parliament.

## Italian Support

Telegrams, letters and resolutions expressing solidarity with Blanco have also been sent from groups and individuals in a whole series of cities and regions in Italy.

In France, support for Hugo Blanco continues to mount. Charles Bettelheim, well-known author and economist, who is a professor at the Sorbonne, sent a



Hugo Blanco

telegram of protest to President Belaúnde Terry.

Ten prominent Parisian professors sent a letter to Belaúnde in which they wrote that "the members of the University of Paris and other French University centers which we represent have been deeply shocked at the threat of death facing Mr. Hugo Blanco and his comrades."

In its Dec. 7 issue, *L'Humanité*, the official daily newspaper of the French Communist Party, expressed solidarity with the political prisoners in Peru and called special attention to the case of Hugo Blanco.

This is of unusual interest inasmuch as Hugo Blanco is well-known for his outspoken Trotskyist views and adherence to the Fourth International.

Meanwhile in Chile, various periodicals have given wide publicity to Hugo Blanco's trial. The magazines *Vea* and *Flash* each devoted a number of pages to the

heroic life of the peasant leader, with full-page photographs in color bearing the headline, "Trial of the Peruvian Fidel Castro."

*El Clarín*, the daily newspaper with the biggest circulation, published an article Nov. 30 by MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] leader Oscar Weiss in which he criticized the "dailies of the left that have remained silent or, at the most, made the record with a few words. This is because Hugo Blanco does not belong to the 'faith' of these dailies — he is a Trotskyist."

## Effective Point

Weiss' criticism, aimed in reality at the silence of The Communist Party daily, *El Siglo*, had an effect. On Dec. 5 *El Siglo* felt compelled to come out in favor of the Hugo Blanco solidarity campaign that is developing in Chile.

The provincial congress of Municipal Workers of Santiago, representing 8,000 workers, passed a motion demanding the release of Blanco on Dec. 18-19.

The delegates of the Second National Congress of the MIR held in Chile recently, voted unanimously to designate Hugo Blanco and other revolutionary fighters in Peru as honorary members of their presidium. By a similar vote, the MIR also decided to redouble its campaign throughout Chile to win freedom for Hugo Blanco.

## Medical Pickets Assail Viet War

The growth of antiwar sentiment in the medical profession has been reflected in a series of protests held last week outside hospitals across the nation.

One of the most successful rallies was held at the University of California medical center in San Francisco. An overflow crowd of some 500 turned out on Jan. 5 to hear doctors and medical students denounce the war in Vietnam as "illegal, immoral, and astounding-ly ignorant."

Speakers at the rally paid special attention to the war's effects on medical care in both the U.S. and Vietnam. Dr. Ernest Newbrun of the School of Dentistry noted that the health problems in Vietnam even prior to the war were staggering, but that now they had overburdened a war-weary population.

## New York Demonstration

In New York, more than 75 medical students from Columbia University joined with over 200 of their colleagues in a demonstration in front of Bellevue Hospital on Jan. 7. The demonstration was sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee of Medical Professionals for Peace in Vietnam.

In another rally in the Bay Area several distinguished members of the University of California faculty spoke to a crowd of 1,200 students on the Sproul Hall steps.

The speakers, representing the Faculty Peace Committee, included Prof. Carl E. Schorske, a historian who was nominated by *Time* magazine as one of the "ten best college teachers," and three professors from the English department.

"When I say I am opposed to all wars I mean ruling-class wars, for the ruling class is the only class that makes war."—Eugene Victor Debs.



**CARDINAL SPELLMAN AT IT AGAIN.** The Militant ran this cartoon March 14, 1949, when Spellman helped break strike of gravediggers. He tried to do the same thing last year in another gravedigger's strike. Now the reactionary Cardinal is doing all he can to encourage intensified military attacks against the Vietnamese people.